

EXHIBIT

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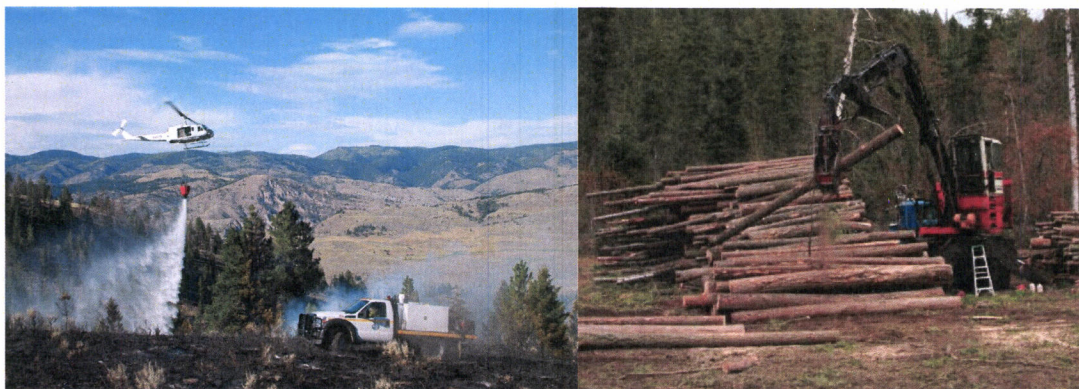
Feb. 4, 2015

HB

B. Harrington

Supporting Information
For
Joint Subcommittee for
Natural Resources and Transportation

February 4, 2015



DNRC Forestry Division

Bob Harrington
Forestry Division Administrator
rharrington@mt.gov

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CP
Agency Owned Equipment Itemized list of FY15 ~~PL~~-3535016

Total 'Earned' Amount:		\$249,886		
Balance (Less Indirect Charges = 6.89%)		\$233,779		
Requests:			Land Office Subtotal	
Eastern Land Office				
	CAT Camp training & meeting	\$8,000		
	Coop Supplies	\$20,000		
				\$28,000
Southern Land Office				
	Training materials & supplies	\$1,750		
	CAT support (training & meeting)	\$8,000		
	SLO Kitchen	\$500		
	County Support	\$5,000		
	Mechanic tools	\$750		
	Portable repeater kit	\$12,000		
				\$28,000
Northeastern Land Office				
	CAT camp & meeting	\$8,000		
	CAT equipment R&M	\$7,000		
	Spring Equipment inspection	\$4,000		
	Cache equipment R&M	\$5,000		
	Fuel for engine delivery	\$2,000		
	Training per diem for county firefighters	\$5,000		
	Supplies & complements for co engines	\$9,000		
				\$40,000
Central Land Office				
	Welding fume extractor for CLO shop	\$4,500		
	County Coop engine complements	\$4,000		
	Shop tools	\$1,000		
	Training flight time (8hrs.)	\$10,200		
	Mobile Kitchen items	\$500		
	Shop HVLS ceiling fan	\$3,500		
	Flight helmet tester	\$800		
				\$24,500
Northwestern Land Office				
	Helicopter flight hrs county training	\$10,000		
	Repairs for County Coop engines	\$1,000		
	Additional complement for county engines	\$5,500		
	PPE for county firefighters	\$17,000		
	Chainsaw for Coop engine	\$900		
	Practice fire shelters	\$3,000		
	Boorman training for local RFDs	\$1,000		
	Pressure pump for VFD	\$2,000		
	Training materials for county training	\$1,500		
				\$41,900
Southwestern Land Office				
	County Coop engine development	\$45,000		
	Prison crew truck paint & body work	\$3,000		
	Prison crew truck seat repair	\$1,500		
	County Coop vehicle R&M	\$2,779		
				\$52,279
Fire & Aviation Bureau EDC				
	Fuel Tender tank development	\$10,000		
	Support of county trainers statewide	\$9,100		
				\$19,100
			Total	\$233,779
Indirect charges are 6.89%				

Natural Resources & Transportation
 Appropriations Subcommittee
 2/3/15
 Department of Natural Resources & Conservation
 Bob Harrington, Forestry Division Administrator
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Montana Forests in Focus Initiative

*Implementation Update
January 2015*

<http://dnrc.mt.gov/forestry/forestsinfocus.asp>

Natural Resources & Transportation
Appropriations Subcommittee
2/3/15

Department of Natural Resources & Conservation
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In July 2014, Governor Bullock announced the Forests in Focus Initiative: A Forest Restoration Strategy for Montana. The four key components of the Initiative are:

**Forest Restoration & Industry Retention; Tribal, State & Private Forests
Federal Forest Management; and Collaboration & Partnerships**

FOREST RESTORATION & INDUSTRY RETENTION

Forest Industry Week

During Montana's 2014 Forest Industry Week, Governor Bullock signed [Executive Order #12-2014 TO PROMOTE USE OF MONTANA WOOD PRODUCTS](#). In it, the Governor recognizes wood product manufacturing as ranking first in the manufacturing sector in Montana in terms of jobs, contributing significantly to the state's economy. He also recognizes wood as a green building material that is a renewable resource. The Executive Order encourages use of Montana wood products for structural and aesthetic purposes as well as for wood energy.

Biomass Utilization

Montana DNRC awarded three new grants for wood energy installation systems:

- ✚ Troy Public Schools received a \$50,000 grant to assist with installation of a high-efficiency wood pellet boiler system and the high school and junior high campus. This follows installation of a similar system at the elementary school in 2008.
- ✚ Bridger Bowl Ski Resort was awarded \$20,000 to assist with installation of a high-efficiency cord wood boiler to provide heat for their maintenance and operations shops.
- ✚ SmartLam Technologies Group received \$40,000 to assist with a high-efficiency wood boiler to head and dry their wood to enhance the quality of manufactured cross laminated timber.

Wood Energy

As part of National Bioenergy Day this year, DNRC recognized the 14 facilities in Montana currently using wood energy systems.

TRIBAL, STATE & PRIVATE FORESTS

Cost-Share for Forestry Projects

Montana DNRC implemented a two million dollar cost-share grant program for forest management projects on non-federal forested lands. Project requests exceeded these available funds; the DNRC selected 12 projects, which are currently in the award process. Once completed, these projects will treat roughly 3,500 acres and generate more than five million board feet of timber volume to be processed at Montana mills. Additionally, close to 28,000 tons of pulp wood will be harvested.

One forest management project on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation will generate house logs as well as firewood to assist elderly residents.



Wood products from these projects will be going to a variety of Montana mills, depending on species, size and whether trees were harvested as post-fire salvage.

FEDERAL FOREST MANAGEMENT

2014 Farm Bill

- ✚ In April 2014, Governor Bullock nominated close to five million acres of national forest system lands for designation as priority landscapes. The recommendations were based on areas with forest health threats and/or risks from catastrophic wildfires. Of these, 4.97 million acres were accepted by the Secretary of Agriculture for designation. The Farm Bill provides several important tools designed specifically to address management needs on these priority landscapes.

Chessman Reservoir Project

- ✚ Under a Master Stewardship Agreement with the Forest Service, the Montana DNRC and Helena Ranger District, USFS, are undertaking implementation of the Red Mountain Flume/Chessman Reservoir Project, which is designed as a forest health treatment in Helena's municipal watershed. The DNRC is a project partner, and is administering the contract for harvest and forest work being conducted by a Montana vendor. As an interested party, DNRC and the Montana Attorney General's office filed an amicus brief in support of the project when legal challenges threatened to delay or permanently stop the project. Work commenced in late July.

Federal/State Liaison

- ✚ DNRC has hired a federal forest liaison to work in the Northern Region of the Forest Service in Missoula, providing important connection between the state and the Forest Service with regards to national forest system projects and priorities. This position works closely with forest supervisors, USFS leadership, forest-based collaboratives, and the DNRC to develop projects to increase the pace and scale of forest management on national forest system lands statewide.

State Investment in Federal Projects

- ✚ Governor Bullock has made available up to one million dollars to engage directly with the USFS on projects which meet key criteria outlined in the Forests in Focus Initiative. Specifically, projects will be within designated priority landscapes, collaboratively developed, provide for forest restoration and other attributes.

COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIPS

Meeting with Collaboratives

- ✚ This fall, Governor Bullock called a consortium of collaborative groups involved in federal forest management to the Montana Capitol to talk about the Farm Bill, Forests in Focus Initiative, and the critical role collaborative processes play in determining the future of forest management in Montana. Representatives shared common themes: they are passionate about the land and connected to it in diverse and inspiring ways. One thing was clear: the need to find a better way to manage national forests is more important than ever, and the job requires a commitment to seek the best alternatives and to develop the best land management actions.

Building Capacity

- ✚ New and existing forest-based collaboratives have the opportunity to apply for Forests in Focus funding to support their efforts through their respective forest supervisor's office.





Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Radio Operations Overview
FY 16 & 17 Budget
DP 35014

INTRODUCTION

The DNRC operates and manages a statewide radio voice communications system. This system is used primarily by Forestry Division fire management personnel for wildland fire detection and suppression efforts, however personnel from Trust Land Management Division also use the system for administrative and safety purposes. The overall system is the 3rd largest of the state agencies.

CURRENT RADIO SYSTEM

- Currently the DNRC communications system is comprised of **1,159*** radios on inventory and in-service.
- There are **649** portable radios in service carried by firefighters, foresters and other personnel while performing field operations.
- There are **401** vehicle mounted mobile radios in support of field operations.
- There are **47** base station units located in various Land Offices, Units and Dispatch Centers.
- Communications coverage area is extended by a network of **48** repeater systems and **14** remote base stations located on various mountain tops.

*These numbers include backup radios and radios awaiting deployment.

This system also accommodates radio traffic for many county agencies performing wild land fire suppression on behalf of the DNRC.

COMMUNICATIONS STAFF

The DNRC communications technical staff is comprised of two communications staff. This technical staff is responsible for purchasing, managing and maintaining the statewide radio network by providing system engineering and site specific design, frequency licensing and coordination as well as technical assistance in the form of: annual preventative maintenance, frequency programming, equipment installations and component level bench repair services.

AUTHORITY & RESPONSIBILITY

Private Land Mobile Radio Service (PLMRS) communications are regulated by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Title 47 CFR, Part 90 rules and regulations specific to Forestry & Conservation activities including wildland fire suppression and public safety apply to DNRC operations.

Frequency Authorizations

- Radio frequencies are authorized for use through a license granted by the FCC and must be used in the manner specified.
- The Department is the license holder and therefore responsible for all communications related activities.

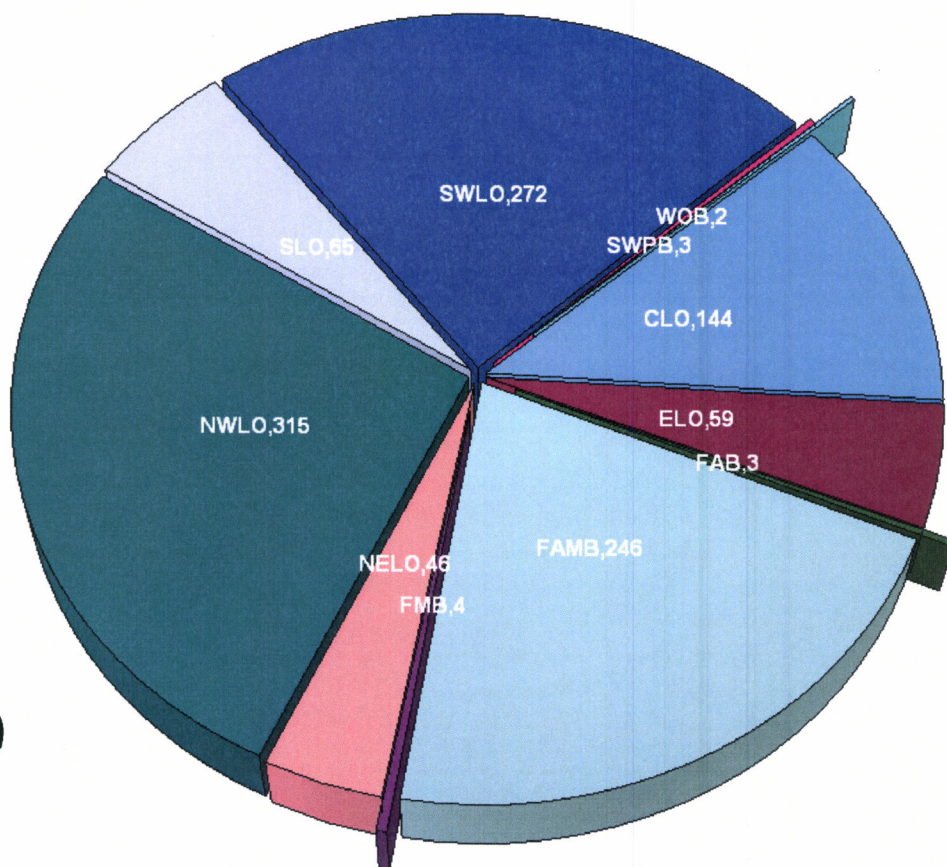
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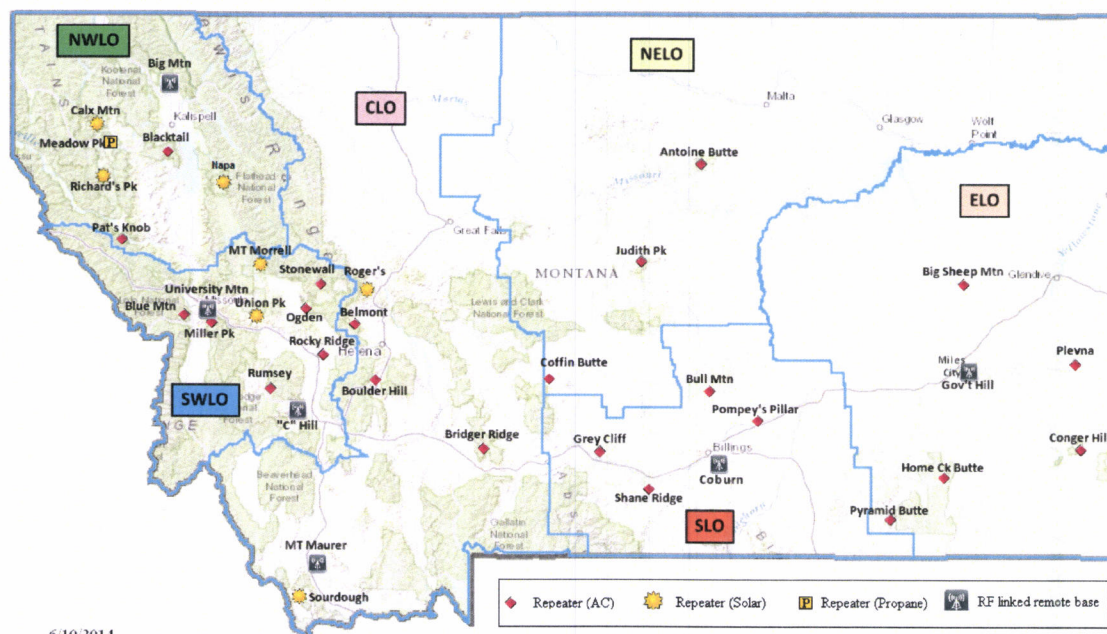


Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
Radio Operations Overview
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DP 35014



CLO - Central Land Office
ELO - Eastern Land Office
FAB - Forestry Assistance Bureau
FAMB - Fire & Aviation Mgt. Bureau
FMB - Forest Mgt. Bureau (TLM)
NELO - Northeastern Land Office
NWLO - Northwestern Land Office
SLO - Southern Land Office
SWLO - Southwestern Land Office
SWPB - State Water Projects Bureau
WOB - Water Operations Bureau

DNRC MTN. TOP RADIO SITES



6/10/2014



2015 Legislature DNRC Aircraft Rate Increase

Proposed per hour rate increase by aircraft:

<u>Aircraft:</u>	<u>Current Rate:</u>	<u>Proposed Rate:</u>	<u>Increase:</u>
Cessna 180 series	\$ 175	\$175	none
Jet Ranger	\$ 515	\$515	none
UH-1 MT205	\$1225	\$1650	\$425

- DNRC requests a flight rate increase for the MT 205 helicopters from \$1225/hr. to \$1650/hr.
- This increase is based on current fuel prices and an increase in Bell helicopter parts.
- This rate reflects an hourly parts cost of \$1093 and an hourly fuel cost of \$556.
- DNRC has utilized a military program called MILSTRIP to purchase parts for the MT 205 UH-1. MILSTRIP is now nearly as costly as Bell helicopter for parts procurement.

The approved 2013 aircraft rate was \$1225.00 per hour, reflecting \$679.00 per hour for parts replacement and \$546.00 per hour for fuel at 5.75 per gallon.

Aircraft fuel has increased from an average of \$5.75 per gallon to \$5.85 per gallon. The aircraft burns 95 gallons per hour. Current fuel cost is \$556.00 per hour.





- ▶ NO SERIOUS ACCIDENTS OR INJURIES
- ▶ 288 FIRES FOR 15,663 ACRES
- ▶ 98% SUCCESS, 10 ACRES OR LESS, ON 275 DIRECT PROTECTION FIRES
- ▶ 13 COUNTY ASSIST FIRES
- ▶ 63 MUTUAL AID FIRES
- ▶ 14 COUNTIES IMPLEMENTED FIRE RESTRICTIONS

2014

Wildfire *summary*

FORESTRY DIVISION

Safety, Success, Teamwork

The 2014 fire season was one with below average number of fires and considerably less acres burned. The weather & fuel conditions, combined with successful suppression operations, limited fire activity across much of Montana. The DNRC was successful in safely suppressing 98% of fires during initial attack. Due to the slower season DNRC was also able to send firefighters to Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and California to support their fire fighting needs. Firefighter safety, interagency cooperation and safe aggressive fire fighting is key to our success.

2014 DNRC Fire Season Statistics	# Fires	Acres
County Assist	13	15,030
Direct Protection	275	633
Total Fires	288	15,663
56% Human; 44% Lightning		
Mutual Aid	63	
False Alarms	64	
Total Incidents	415	
% of Direct Protection Fires < 10 acres	98%	
Homes Lost	0	



Mission

We protect lives, property and natural resources on state and private lands by providing resources, leadership and coordination to ensure safe and aggressive fire suppression.



Estimated State Fire Cost for the 2014 Season is \$2.8 million

This report summarizes the fire season from the perspective of the Montana DNRC and includes information about fire statistics, aviation, suppression, prevention, training, safety, finances, and incident management teams.



Wood Creek Fire, Garrison Wildfire Initial Attack Station, July

FIRE PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS DNRC's program objectives are to raise awareness, be a resource, educate, and change behavior with regards to reducing human caused wildfires and safety in Montana's wildland urban interface. This year's efforts include: a \$6,000 statewide equipment fire prevention media campaign with BLM and MT Broadcasting Network; 2,710 public contacts and distribution of materials; 83 public meetings events; 38 community & home assessments; 43 media contacts and news releases; and the maintenance of 175 prevention signs.

AVIATION The Aviation program logged 597 flight hours and delivered approximately 1,020,000 gallons of water and fire retardant. Five MT-205 helicopters are the work horses of the program. During the summer the ships are stationed in Missoula, Kalispell and Helena. Two are available statewide for initial attack support. The aviation staff is made up of six full-time mechanics, four full-time pilots, and 15 seasonal pilots.

NORTHWEST COMPACT & MONTANA NATIONAL GUARD The DNRC utilizes additional help through agreements with neighboring states and Canada under the Northwest Compact. In 2014 one engine was provided as part of a Northwest Compact Strike Team that assisted the State of Washington. In addition, the Montana Army National Guard supported the State of Washington with two type-1 CH-47 helicopters and aviation support personnel. The helicopters and crews were deployed twice through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) to assist Washington in suppressing several large fires.

- 14 counties implemented Stage I Fire Restrictions, 1 county went into Stage II Fire Restrictions
- Severity funding totaled \$176,771

NORTHERN ROCKIES INTERAGENCY INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAMS

The DNRC is committed to involvement with the Northern Rockies Interagency Incident Management Teams (IMTs). When wildfires exceed local management capabilities, IMTs are called upon to provide assistance. This year Northern Rockies IMTs went on 12 assignments. Team assignments totaled 136 days, with an average of 12 days on assignment per team member. Two assignments were in Montana, one in California, three in Washington, two in Oregon and four in Idaho.

COUNTY ASSIST TEAM "CAT"

The DNRC also sponsors an all hazard IMT. The team was originally formed in 1990 to help rural and volunteer fire departments with wildfires when the local initial forces became stretched beyond their resource level. This year the CAT team was assigned to the 215 acre Log Gulch Fire, northeast of Helena in August. The team also hosted a spring training in Miles City where 250 participants engaged in a training exercise using live fire.

EQUIPMENT DEVELOPMENT CENTER Of the 28 fire engines the Equipment Development Center built 20 were delivered to fire departments in the following counties: Beaverhead, Blaine, Carbon, Carter, Fergus, Garfield, Jefferson, Madison, McCone, Meagher, Musselshell, Pondera, Sweet Grass, Roosevelt, Sheridan and Yellowstone.

"We greatly appreciate the early detection and initial attack program the DNRC has in place and the professionalism of your team."

—F.H. Stoltze Land & Lumber Co.



Winifred Fire Dept. in Fergus County receives a DNRC water tender

"We are very appreciative of DNRC's assistance at our recent community event as we work to become more knowledgeable about wildland fire safety."

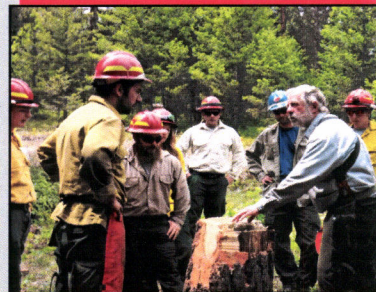
—Paul Okerberg, Big Mtn. Fire District

TOP PRIORITY: SAFETY

21 injuries reported
10 fewer than 2013

Causes of injuries/illnesses:

Bodily Reaction 12
Heat Related Illness 1
Insect Bite 4
Vegetation 2
Struck By 1
Slip/Trip/Fall 1



Saw training

TRAINING

DNRC offered 226 wildfire, incident management, and leadership training courses in 2014 to 3,296 students.

1,309 DNRC students
1,645 Local Gov. students
342 Federal students
11 Other students

EQUIPMENT

The DNRC Equipment Development Center acquired \$2.6 million worth of federal property and built 28 fire engines

23 type 5 engines
3 type 4 engines
2 type 2 water tenders
30 pump panels & flatbeds
20 pump heads

